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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	50X1	Hungary		REPORT NO.		50X1
SUBJECT		WFDY's Organization of Rural Youth	50X1	DATE DISTR.	1 November 1955	
				NO. OF PAGES	3	
DATE OF INFO.				REQUIREMENT NO.		50X1
PLACE ACQUIRED				REFERENCES		
DATE ACQUIRED						50X1

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50X1 Attached is as received

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STATE	#X	ARMY	X#	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC					
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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COUNTRY Hungary 50X1

DATE DISTR. 7 Oct. 1955

SUBJECT WFDY's Organization of Rural Youth

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFORMATION 50X1

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Prior to 1953, the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) did not concern itself particularly with youth in rural areas; however, in that year, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) organized the International Rural Youth Conference [redacted] and its success was so great that the WFDY Secretariat realized the importance of making a special effort to organize the vast numbers of youth living in rural areas throughout the world, particularly those in Latin America, Southeast Asia, and other "colonial" areas. In October or November 1953, the WFDY decided to organize a rural youth conference. To make it appear that this effort had been the spontaneous gesture [redacted] the "appeal" was not made in the name of WFDY, although the wording was drafted at WFDY Headquarters by the WFDY Secretariat.

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In early December 1953, the "appeal" was forwarded to a rural youth organization [redacted] that group then appealed to the rural youth of the world to organize an international gathering. WFDY, then, officially welcomed the "appeal" and made recommendations to its affiliates to launch organizational campaigns for a constitutional meeting.

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In January 1954, a WFDY Executive Committee meeting took place [redacted] where the question of rural youth was the main point on the agenda. Speeches at this meeting centered around the miserable living conditions of youth in the capitalist and colonial countries and the methods to be used by WFDY to improve these conditions. The president of WFDY again welcomed the "appeal" [redacted] and offered WFDY assistance in making preparations for an international youth meeting. [redacted]

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4. Although this meeting was planned for early February 1954, it did not take place until March 1954 because of difficulties in obtaining visas for some of the delegates and because some of the delegates had to travel so far. As a result of the meeting [redacted] the International Preparatory Commission was formed in [redacted] 1954. Most of the staff members of this commission were drafted from WFDY Headquarters, since very few persons from other countries volunteered their services. [redacted] the Commission made preparations for an international rural youth gathering [redacted] This meeting was held from 9 to 15 December 1954 [redacted] and was attended by 250 to 300 delegates. 50X1
5. The Secretariat of WFDY considered the meeting so successful that, in January 1955, a special section for questions on rural youth was formed at WFDY Headquarters in Budapest [redacted] The section prepares a monthly newspaper, Rural Youth, and arranged for one day devoted to rural youth activities to be included at the Warsaw Congress in summer 1955. 50X1
6. The targets for rural youth campaigns were primarily aimed at the "colonial" countries, such as Southeast Asia, Latin America, and Africa, as well as Italy; neither England, France, nor the US was considered a suitable target for this type of youth campaign. The primary reason for excluding the rural youth of the US in the campaigns was [redacted] the lack of propaganda appeals to them; during one discussion of propaganda subjects, it was decided that an appeal to press for the electrification of farms in the US would be effective. However, an American who was present remarked that such an appeal could not be used for US youth because electrification of farms in the US was so far advanced that many farms had television. 50X1

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